

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11
AID-05 OES-07 HEW-06 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-20 OIC-02 ABF-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EB-08
/173 W

-----079452 221756Z /42

R 221519Z MAY 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9952

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 07856

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WHO IS XF IN

SUBJECT: 31ST WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY (MAY 8-24) - SECOND
WEEK

REF: GENEVA 7464

1. SUMMARY. ASSEMBLY REJECTED EXECUTIVE BOARD (EB)
PROPOSAL TO ECONOMIZE BY REDUCING TRANSLATIONS INTO
LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH FROM SOME DOCUMENTS. IT
ADOPTED EB PROPOSAL ON USE OF CASUAL INCOME TO COUNTER
ADVERSE CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS. IT VOTED RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING WHO ROLE IN LEBANON (US OBJECTED TO RESOLU-
TION'S USE OF PHRASE "ISRAELI INVASION"). ASSEMBLY VOTED
SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1978 AND BUDGET FOR 1979. ALSO
ADOPTED GUIDELINES ("UP TO 2 PERCENT REAL ANNUAL
GROWTH") FOR 1980-81. USDEL WITHDREW ITS NONHUMAN PRIMATE
DRAFT RESOLUTION INITIATIVE. TEN NEW MEMBERS ELECTED TO
EB. MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES DUE TO COME
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UP MAY 22 IN COMMITTEE B. END SUMMARY.

2. WHEN DOCUMENTATION/LANGUAGES QUESTION (ITEM 3.4)
CAME UP IN COMMITTEE B ON MAY 15, FRANCE INTRODUCED
RESOLUTION CALLING FOR MAINTENANCE OF STATUS QUO. RESOLU-
TION HAD 28 CO-SPONSORS WHO WERE JOINED BY 18 MORE AS
DISCUSSION PROCEEDED. USDEL STATED CASE FOR ACCEPTING EB

PROPOSAL IN TERMS OF ECONOMY AND OF NEED FOR ASSEMBLY TO TAKE STAND AGAINST MOUNTING LANGUAGE COSTS. THEN ANNOUNCED US ABSTENTION. VOTE WAS 96-0-6(US). THOSE JOINING THE US INCLUDED INDIA, GHANA AND MOZAMBIQUE.

3. EB PROPOSAL TO ALLOW USE OF UP TO \$2 MILLION IN CASUAL INCOME IN 1978 AND 1979 TO REDUCE ADVERSE EFFECTS OF CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS (DOLLAR/SWISS FRANC) - ITEM 3.3 - WAS ADOPTED AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION. ONLY USSR SPOKE AGAINST, CALLING PROPOSAL MERE PALLIATIVE AND A BAD PRECEDENT.

4. COMMITTEE B ADOPTED RESOLUTION ON LEBANON -- CO-SPONSORED BY FRANCE, GHANA, GREECE, NEPAL, SENEGAL AND YUGOSLAVIA -- EXPRESSING SATISFACTION WITH WHO'S ROLE IN HELPING PROVIDE HEALTH AND MEDICAL AID TO LEBANON. REFERENCE IN TEXT TO "ISRAELI INVASION" PROMPTED STATEMENT OF RESERVATION BY USDEL (STATE 127545 NOTAL) AND ANNOUNCEMENT THAT USDEL WOULD ABSTAIN IF RESOLUTION CAME TO VOTE, WHICH IT DID NOT.

5. SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR 1978 (ITEM 3.5) IN AMOUNT OF \$6.6 MILLION WAS ADOPTED AFTER BRIEF DISCUSSION, 93(US)-5-3. AGAINST WERE USSR, HUNGARY, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, POLAND AND BULGARIA. USSR PROPOSED INSTEAD FURTHER ECONOMIES AND USE OF OTHER CURRENCIES THAN US DOLLAR.

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6. COMMITTEE A ADOPTED APPROPRIATION RESOLUTION FOR 1979 (ITEM 2.2.2) IN AMOUNT OF \$208,248,400, 103(US)-0-7. (EFFECTIVE WORKING BUDGET IS \$182,730,000.) ABSTAINING WERE USSR, POLAND, CZECHOSLOVAKIA, GDR, BULGARIA, HUNGARY AND TURKEY.

7. COMMITTEE A ALSO ADOPTED EB PROPOSAL (ITEM 2.3) THAT WHO INCLUDE UP TO 2 PERCENT "REAL" ANNUAL GROWTH IN PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 1980 AND 1981, 94(US)-5-4. AGAINST WERE USSR, HUNGARY, POLAND, GDR AND BULGARIA. ABSTAINING WERE ITALY, BELGIUM IRAQ AND ANOTHER. BOTH ITALY AND BELGIUM SAID THEY FAVORED ZERO GROWTH. FRG, UK, NETHERLANDS, AUSTRALIA, AND FRANCE SPOKE IN FAVOR WITH FRANCE EMPHASIZING THAT 2 PERCENT MUST BE ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM. US DID NOT TAKE FLOOR.

8. WHEN COMMITTEE B ADDRESSED ITEM 3.13.1 (COORDINATION IN UN SYSTEM), INDIA EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT IMPACT OF UN RESTRUCTURING ON WHO. SECRETARIAT (ADG FLACHE) COMMENTED THAT IMPACT WOULD BE PROFOUND AND UNDERTOOK TO PRESENT FULL ASSESSMENT TO NEXT YEAR'S ASSEMBLY. FLACHE ADDED THAT INDIA COULD REST ASSURED THAT WHO'S

ROLE WOULD, IF ANYTHING, BE ENHANCED AS RESULT OF RE-STRUCTURING, AND WHO'S TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROGRAMS WOULD NOT BE SUBORDINATED TO THOSE OF OTHER UN AGENCIES. UNDER ITEM 3.13.2 (EXTRABUDGETARY SOURCES IN UN SYSTEM), USDEL URGED THAT HEALTH MINISTRIES OF MEMBER COUNTRIES TAKE ADVANTAGE OF GROWING UNDP RESOURCES BY SEEKING TO PERSUADE THEIR GOVERNMENTS TO SEEK UNDP FUNDING (OR ADDITIONAL FUNDING) FOR HEALTH ACTIVITIES IN PRIORITY AREAS. SECRETARIAT ECHOED THIS SUGGESTION.

9. USDEL RAN INTO WHAT BEGAN TO LOOK LIKE REAL TROUBLE WITH DRAFT RESOLUTION DRAWING ATTENTION TO SERIOUS CON-

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SEQUENCES FOR WORLD BIO-MEDICINE AS RESULT OF SHORTAGE OF NONHUMAN PRIMATES. SO INSTEAD, IT MADE FULL STATEMENT ON SUBJECT IN COMMITTEE A ON MAY 20 (SEPTTEL) WHICH WAS FOLLOWED BY SUPPORTIVE STATEMENT BY CANADA. INFORMAL AND. USEFUL CONTACTS WITH INDIAN DELEGATION WERE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT PERIOD WHEN WE WERE NEGOTIATING WITH MANY DELEGATIONS TEXT OF EVENUTALLY ABORTED RESOLUTION.

10. ON MAY 19 VARIOUS G-77 COUNTRIES TABLED DRAFT RESOLUTION ON HEALTH CONDITIONS OF ARAB POPULATION IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. IN ADDITION, AFRICANS TABLED 3 DRAFT RESOLUTIONS ON SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH COMMITTEE B GAVE TO WORKING GROUP SO THAT THEY COULD BE COMBINED

(SEPTELS). ARAB RESOLUTION WILL COME UP FOR CONSIDERATION ON MAY 22.

11. COUNTRIES ELECTED BY ASSEMBLY TO DESIGNATE A PERSON TO SERVE ON EB WERE: BAHRAIN, BURMA, BURUNDI, CAPE VERDE, CHINA, COMOROS, FRANCE, MEXICO, CHAD AND UNCLASSIFIED

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USSR. VOTE WAS BY CONSENSUS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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